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May 13, 2002

LAW OFFICES OF JONATHAN ALAN QUINE

By: Chianti Appling

Atty Docket No: 407T-896330US
Client Ref: 92-132-4

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

PETER KUSHNER, PAUL WEBB, RENEE WILILARD, C. ANTHONY HUNT, and GABRIELLA LOPEZ

Application No.: **09/729,478**

Filed: **12/04/2000**

For: **METHODS FOR SCREENING COMPOUNDS FOR ESTROGENIC ACTIVITY**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action dated December 13, 2001, containing a Restriction Requirement. The following documents are enclosed herewith:

- 1) A petition to extend the period of response for four months; and
- 2) A PTO Form 1449 and associated references (Information Disclosure Statement).

REMARKS

In the December 13, 2001 Office Action the Examiner required restriction to one of the following groups under 35 U.S.C. §121:

Group I: Claims 1-11, drawn to a method of screening a test compound for the ability to activate transcription through an indirect estrogen response;

Group II: Claim 12, drawn to an estrogen agonist;

Group III: Claims 13-16, drawn to a method of screening a test compound for the ability to inhibit transcription through an indirect estrogen response;

Group IV: Claim 17, drawn to a compound that inhibits transcription through an indirect estrogen response;